# January 2013 Weather in Review

**January 2013 brought the usual variety of weather changes to South Central Texas in a winter month, from cold and winter like days to warm and spring like conditions. The dryness across the area since the Fall helped to increase the extremes of daily temperature changes from cold to warm days, as well as in the opposite direction from warm to colder days. The above normal rainfall in the month was the first month that most places had above normal rainfall since September 2012. January 2013 ended with the average temperature warmer than usual; however, it was not one of the warmer Januarys of record, because of several extended cold outbreaks in the first half of the month, and a brief period of cooler weather at the end of the month.**

**January 2013 began with cooler weather on New Years Day that turned colder on January 2nd, as an additional wave of cold air arrived. A disturbance coming from the southwest caused increasing clouds Wednesday the 2nd, and a mixed precipitation event began the night of the 2nd to the morning of January 3rd. Sleet along with cold rain was observed over parts of the Hill Country to adjacent parts of South Central Texas, Thursday morning, January 3rd. The cloudiness and cold continued on the 3rd, with snow noted over the Southern Edwards Plateau. As the final wave of instability came across the region from the southwest the night of the 3rd to the early morning on Friday, January 4th, there was snow from the southern Edwards Plateau to parts of Hill Country. Sleet was observed in the Austin Area around sunrise on Friday the 4th. Cold and cloudy conditions prevailed during the day on January 4th, with occasional light rain in the afternoon. The days of January 2nd to the 4th and January 15th were the coldest days for the month, when highs varied from the mid 30s to near 40 over the Hill Country and near 40 to the 40s across most of South Central Texas, except for upper 40s to low 50s west of San Antonio on the 15th, where skies cleared. A fast moving frontal system brought much drier conditions the evening and night of the 5th, followed by a sunny day on Sunday, January 6th, when highs rose to the upper 50s to low 60s, with low to mid 60s over the Rio Grande Plains.**

**Monday the 7th began as a sunny day; however, conditions changed as increasing clouds came in advance of a rain making low that developed over the Southwest U.S. and Northern Mexico. The clouds increased quickly the night of the 7th to the early morning of the 8th, with occasional light rain and showers developing quickly after midnight from south of San Antonio to parts of the Hill Country. As more unstable conditions formed, isolated thunderstorms were noted in the morning on Tuesday, January 8th. The rain and showers increased in the evening of the 8th, as overrunning clouds and rain became more widespread. Periods of heavy rain developed the night of the 8th to the early morning on Wednesday the 9th. As the area of heavy rain shifted east in the morning on the 9th, the rain briefly decreased over the east part of South Central Texas. Further west, rain increased over the west part of South Central Texas during the day, closer to the center of the rain making low pressure system. Del Rio picked up 0.89 inches of rain, a record daily rain for January 9th at Del Rio. Most of the rain in January 2013 came on January 8th and January 9th. Rainfall amounts from January 8th to 9th were as follows: Austin Mabry 2.49 inches; Austin Bergstrom 2.25 inches; Burnet 1.87 inches; Del Rio 1.26 inches; Hondo 1.36 inches; New Braunfels 1.87 inches; San Antonio 2.53 inches; and San Antonio Stinson 2.65 inches. As the evening and night came on the 9th, the rain diminished as the rain making low pressure system moved to North Texas. A slow moving Pacific Front moved across South Central Texas from the west during the night to early morning on Thursday the 10th. Areas of fog developed in advance of this slow moving front from Georgetown to Austin and extending south to La Grange and west to San Antonio and parts of the Hill Country. The fog diminished as dry air came across**

**the area from the west during the pre dawn hours on January 10th. A sunny and pleasant day followed with highs in the 60s. The warming trend that began January 10th continued through Saturday, January 12th.**

**After a warm day on Saturday the 12th, it was colder again January 13th, in wake of a fast moving cold front, that moved across South Central Texas in the late afternoon and evening of January 12th. Sunny, cooler and drier conditions on Sunday the 13th were followed by additional waves of cold air January 14th and 15th, bringing a return of cold weather similar to what came January 2nd to 4th. Light precipitation was noted in the early morning of January 14th and 15th over the north and eastern Hill Country to adjacent parts of Central Texas, associated with fast moving disturbances moving just north of South Central Texas. As additional cold air spilled across the area from the north and northeast during the day on January 15th, the lowest daytime highs of the month were observed over the Hill Country and adjacent parts of Central and South Central Texas. Highs were in the mid to upper 30s across the Hill Country; upper 30s to near 40 over adjacent parts of Central Texas; and in the low 40s over adjacent parts of South Central Texas. West and southwest of San Antonio, where skies cleared in the afternoon, the highs were in the upper 40s to low 50s.**

**Conditions changed again January 16th, when more sunshine and slightly warmer temperatures came with highs mostly in the 50s, except near 60 at Del Rio. Sunny days with a warming trend brought daily highs above normal January 17th and 18th, and the warming trend continued through the weekend of January 19th and 20th. The warmer than usual conditions persisted Monday, January 21st to Friday, January 25th. A weak cold front came across the area the night of the 25th, bringing a brief period of cooler conditions early Saturday the 26th. A rapid warming trend followed Saturday afternoon the 26th, and continued Sunday the 27th through Monday the 28th and the daytime on Tuesday, January 29th. The warmest daily overnight lows of record for January 28th of 69 at Austin, 66 at Del Rio, and 69 at San Antonio were observed. The low of 69 at San Antonio was also a monthly record for the warmest daily low of record in the month of January at San Antonio since 1885. The warmest day of the month was Tuesday, January 29th in advance of a fast moving Pacific Cold Front. Highs rose to the 80s, with 90 observed at Hondo on January 29th. Record daily highs of 87 at Del Rio, 86 at San Antonio, and 85 at Austin Bergstrom were observed on January 29th.**

**The fast moving Pacific Front brought windy and cooler conditions during the late afternoon of the 29th and the night of January 29th to the morning of January 30th. Winds gusted to near 40 to near 50 mph in wake of the fast moving Pacific Cold Front in the afternoon and evening on January 29th. The strongest wind gust was observed at San Antonio Stinson Field, where winds reached 53 mph in the late afternoon, at 547 PM. Like the fast moving cold fronts in December, the strong northwest winds brought dust to the area in the afternoon and evening of January 29th. Highs the following day on January 30th were between 20 and 30 degrees cooler, in the 50s across the Hill Country to around 60 to lower 60s over adjacent parts of South Central Texas. As the winds diminished under clear skies, a freeze came the night of the 30th to the early morning of January 31st. The month ended on the 31st with mostly sunny to partly cloudy skies and dry conditions, as afternoon highs rose to the upper 60s to near 70.**

**Overall January of 2013 was warmer and wetter than usual. The rain event on January 8th and 9th was the most widespread rain event since September 28th and 29th. January 2013 was the first month since September 2012 where the monthly rainfall was above normal. The above normal temperature in January 2013 was the 2nd January in a row where it was warmer than usual. The last Januarys with below normal temperatures came in January of 2010 and January of 2011.**

## January 2013 Summary

| Location | Average Temperature | Average High | Average Low | Warmest/Coolest | Rainfall |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Austin Mabry | 53.6 +2.1 | 64.4 +2.9 | 42.9 +1.4 | 84 on 29th<br>30 on 16th | 2.88 +0.66 |
| Austin Bergstrom | 50.8 +1.6 | 63.8 +1.7 | 37.9 +1.6 | 85 on 29th<br>25 on 6th and 7th | 2.71 +0.48 |
| Burnet | 50.3 +2.0 | 61.6 +1.6 | 39.1 +1.6 | 81 on 24th<br>26 on 3rd and 16th | 2.07 +0.23 |
| Del Rio | 54.1 +1.9 | 64.9 +1.1 | 43.3 +2.7 | 87 on 29th<br>27 on 16th | 1.33 +0.61 |
| Hondo | 53.5 +2.4 | 66.5 +3.3 | 40.5 +1.5 | 90 on 29th<br>23 on 16th | 1.61 +0.23 |
| New Braunfels | 52.8 +1.5 | 64.8 +2.8 | 40.7 +0.2 | 87 on 29th<br>27 on 31st | 2.04 +0.18 |
| San Antonio International Airport | 53.9 +2.1 | 64.7 +1.8 | 43.1 +2.4 | 86 on 29th<br>29 on 16th | 2.83 +1.07 |
| San Antonio Stinson | 54.1 +1.7 | 65.1 +1.7 | 43.2 +1.9 | 87 on 29th<br>27 on 16th | 2.78 +1.05 |

**Click Here to see more details on January 2013 weather.**

**The revised outlook for February 2013 from the Climate Prediction Center issued January 31st for South Central Texas calls for the average monthly temperature for February 2013 to have a 40 percent chance of being warmer than normal; a 33.3 percent chance of near normal; and a 26.7 percent chance of cooler than normal temperatures for February. The outlook for rain in February 2013 shows mostly Equal Chances of rainfall being drier, wetter or near normal for the month of February. The 90 Day Outlook from February 2013 to April 2013 shows a 50 percent chance of being warmer than usual from February to April; a 33.3 percent chance of being near normal; and a 16.7 percent chance of being cooler than normal. The February 2013 to April 2013 90 Day rainfall outlook over South Central Texas shows a 40 to 50 percent chance of being drier than usual from February to April; a 33.3 percent chance of near normal rain; and a 16.7 to 26.7 percent chance of above normal rain. Click Here to See the Latest One Month Outlook from the Climate Prediction Center. The table below lists information on Climate Normals for the month of February for Austin, Del Rio and San Antonio.**

## February Climate Information Referencing 1981 to 2010 Normals

| Location | Normal Monthly Temp. | Normal High | Normal Low | All time High | All time Low | Normal Rainfall | All Time Driest | All Time Wettest |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Austin/Mabry | 55.0 | 65.2 | 44.8 | 99 | -1 | 2.02 | 0 | 9.41 |
| Austin/Bergstrom | 52.1 | 64.8 | 39.4 | 101 | 8 | 2.37 | 0.02 | 7.34 |
| Del Rio | 56.8 | 68.6 | 45.0 | 99 | 11 | 0.88 | 0 | 7.82 |
| San Antonio | 55.6 | 66.9 | 44.2 | 100 | 4 | 1.79 | Trace | 7.88 |